

REMARKS

The present amendment which accompanies the Request for Continued Examination amends currently pending claims 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16, 23, 24 and 25 and submits new claims 57-79. The amendment to claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 16, 23, 24 and 25 is presented to more particularly point out and claim that which applicant regards as its invention. In particular, the amended language clarifies that the spaced lines are defined in dependence upon the positions of functional display regions and that the nodes are placed at the intersection of these spaced lines. It is therefore clear that the spaced lines define the nodes and not *vice versa*. This amendatory language also clarifies the manner in which the nodes are defined based on the location of functional display regions. As such, these claims are believed to further distinguish over US patent 5,510,811 Tobey et al. (Tobey hereinafter), and in particular address the issue raised at the third paragraph of the Continuation of Item 5 in the Advisory Action (lines 12-16 of the Continuation of Item 5).

Furthermore, in response to said Continuation of Item 5 in the Advisory Action, applicant continues to maintain that Tobey does not describe nodes being based on locations of the functional display regions. In particular in Tobey, the same purported “nodes” would be defined regardless of the position and density of the “hot spots” as that term is used in Tobey. For example, there would continue to be “nodes” even if there were no “hot spots” based on the disclosure in Tobey. Thus, it is one thing for a set of “nodes” to be provided which, because of their predefined arrangement, are suitable for selecting “hot spots” regardless of the position of those “hot spots”. It is another thing for a set of “nodes” to be specifically configured dependent upon positions of display regions. Having nodes such as those of the present invention as set forth in amended claim 1, which are defined based upon locations of display regions, can have the advantage of not only allowing configuration of intuitive and logical paths between display regions but also for providing fewer nodes. Together, these features can provide a much more efficient navigation scheme with fewer steps as compared to those of Tobey.

Applicant does continue to reiterate the arguments set forth in its Amendment after Final Rejection having a mailing date of July 1, 2004.

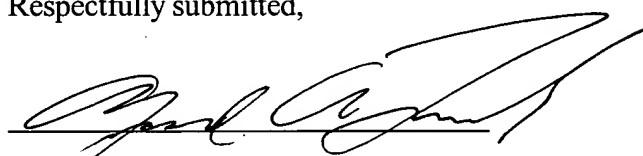
The newly submitted claims 57-79 are also believed to distinguish the present invention over the cited art including Tobey. Claims 57-60 are dependent from previously presented claims and are therefore believed to further distinguish over the cited art. The remaining new claims 61-79 further express the invention in a manner which is believed to be distinguished over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application as amended is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact applicant's attorney at the number below if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Alfred A. Fressola  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 27,550

Dated: October 1, 2004

WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS  
& ADOLPHSON LLP  
Bradford Green, Building Five  
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224  
Monroe, CT 06468  
Telephone: (203) 261-1234  
Facsimile: (203) 261-5676  
USPTO Customer No. 004955